

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 CU-04
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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5969

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0060

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, GY, GE
SUBJECT: GDR ACTIVITY AND INTEREST IN GUYANA

REF: 77 BERLIN 9319

1. REFTEL REQUESTED INFORMATION ON EXTENT OF RECENT GDR ACTIVITY IN LATIN AMERICA. THROUGH ITS RESIDENT TRADE MISSION, HEADED BY ARNIM WUNTKE, THE GDR MAINTAINS AN ACTIVE PRESENCE IN GUYANA, ESPECIALLY IN TRADE AND EDUCATIONAL MATTERS. GUYANA'S LARGEST SINGLE EXPORT ITEM FROM A COMMUNIST COUNTRY DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1977 WAS A FLEET OF 47 EAST GERMAN TRUCKS. NUMEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY IN THE GDR HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO GUYANESE STUDENTS IN THE FIELDS OF FARM MANAGEMENT, VETERINARY MEDICINE, INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING, OPTICAL EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER TECHNICAL SUBJECTS.

2. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GDR AND GUYANA DURING THE PAST YEAR WAS THE SIGNING OF A CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT IN BERLIN ON JUNE 23, 1977. THE AGREEMENT COVERED EDUCATION, SPORTS, THE ARTS, AND SEVERAL OTHER
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AREAS.

3. IN LATE NOVEMBER OF 1977 A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY, MR. J. NAUMANN, ACCOMPANIED BY THE GDR NON-RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TO GUYANA HEINZ LANGER (STATIONED IN HAVANA), HELD TALKS WITH FONMIN WILLS. ACCORDING TO NAUMANN HE WAS COMMISSIONED BY GDR FON

MIN OSCAR FISHER TO SPEAK ON BI-LATERAL ISSUES. HE STATED THAT THE GDR WAS TAKING A GREAT INTEREST IN THE POSITIONS GUYANA WAS ASSUMING IN INTERNATIONAL FORA AND STRESSED GDR APPRECIATION FOR MANY OF THOSE POSITIONS. GDR-GOG TIES HAD INCREASED GREATLY IN THE FIVE YEARS SINCE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED. NAUMANN REVEALED THAT STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN TO ACCELERATE COOPERATION UNDER THE JUNE 1977 BERLIN AGREEMENT. THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN MASS COMMUNICATION WAS DECLARED AN AREA OF SPECIAL INTEREST.

4. FON MIN WILLS IN A DISCUSSION WITH THE CHARGE' ON JANUARY 4 SAID THAT HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT A PROPOSED HONECKER VISIT TO GUYANA.
BLACKEN

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Message Attributes

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